

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /015 W  
-----109383 132056Z /70 R  
O 132005Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9939

UNCLAS NASSAU 1597

FOR ARA/MGT

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC  
SUBJ: EVALUATION OF CONSULAR FUNCTION

REF: (A) STATE 244854 (B) NASSAU 1255 (C) STATE 179651

1. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF THIS POST TO PROVIDE IDEAL  
LEVEL OF RESPONSIVE CONSULAR SERVICES FOLLOWS. REGRETTABLY  
NONE OF THE INCREASED RESOURCES WERE INCLUDED IN POST'S MAT 1977  
CONSULAR PACKAGE FOR THE REASONS OUTLINED IN NASSAU 1255.

### COST

|            | NO OF | ANNUAL | ANNUAL | TOTAL |
|------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| POSITIONS: | PSNS  | ALLOW  | SALARY | COST  |

|           |   |        |        |        |
|-----------|---|--------|--------|--------|
| AMERICANS | 1 | 12,875 | 13,478 | 26,353 |
|-----------|---|--------|--------|--------|

### OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

|                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| EQUIPMENT (AVLOS)         | EST COST DOLS 1,500 PA |
| CONSULAR RENOVATIONS      | EST COST DOLS 3,000    |
| CONSULAR GUARD PROTECTION | EST COST DOLS 30,000   |
| CONSULAR TRAVEL           | EST COST DOLS 2,100 PA |
| FURNITURE, OFFICE         | EST COST DOLS 1,200    |

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2. THE POST'S JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUESTING AN  
ADDITIONAL OFFICER POSITION WAS ALSO SET FORTH IN NASSAU  
1255 AND DOES NOT REQUIRE FURTHER AMPLIFICATION HERE.

3. SINCE THE POST ISSUES SOME 30,000 NIV'S AND 1,000 IV'S  
A YEAR, EQUIPMENT COSTS UNDER OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

ARE THOSE ESTIMATED FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AVLOS. THIS MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH THE CA/EX REPRESENTATIVE AT THE CONSULAR CONFERENCE IN PORT OF SPAIN AND WAS ALSO GIVEN THE STRONG BACKING OF THE FS INSPECTORS. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, DIVIDED CONSULAR RENOVATIONS AND CONSULAR GUARD PROTECTION INTO SEPARATE CATEGORIES THOUGH BOTH FACTUALLY ARE CONCERNED WITH RENOVATIONS. IN ORDER TO MORE EFFICIENTLY UTILIZE LIMITED AVAILABLE SPACE, POST IS ACTIVELY CONSIDERING PLAN TO MODIFY OFFICE CURRENTLY USED BY THE CONSULAR CASHIER FOR USE BY THE POST'S CITIZEN SERVICES OFFICER AND TO MODIFY THE OFFICE CURRENTLY USED BY THE CONSULAR ASSISTANT INTO ONE THAT WOULD ACCOMMODATE BOTH THE CONSULAR ASSISTANT AND THE CASHIER. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE REQUESTING FUNDS FOR CARPETING IN THE NIV WAITING ROOM TO DEADEN SOUND AND ADDITIONAL WRITING SPACE FOR APPLICANTS TO FILL OUT APPLICATIONS.

4. THE FUNDS REQUESTED FOR CONSULAR GUARD PROTECTION REFER NOT TO AN ONGOING EXPENSE OF HIRING GUARDS TO PROTECT THE CONSULAR SECTION, BUT RATHER TO A ONE TIME EXPENSE TO MOVE THE EMBASSY'S MARINE GUARD DESK DOWNSTAIRS AND TO MAKE NECESSARY STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE EMBASSY ENTRANCE WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE MARINE GUARD TO PERFORM HIS PROTECTIVE FUNCTIONS FOR THE ENTIRE EMBASSY. THIS REQUEST AND VARIOUS PLANS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH HAVE UNCLASSIFIED

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BEEN HANGING FIRE IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR WELL OVER A YEAR AND HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SANTO DOMINGO 5617 AND NUMEROUS OTHER PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS. IN THIS REGARD, THE POST WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT IN THEIR COMMENTS TO THE POST, THE FS INSPECTORS WHO DEPARTED NASSAU OCTOBER 9 WERE ADAMANT THAT NOT ONLY SHOULD THE MARINE GUARD STATION BE MOVED BUT THAT OVERALL PHYSICAL SECURITY, PARTICULARLY IN THE CONSULAR SECTION, BE IMPROVED.

5. THE LAST INCREASE REQUESTED IS FOR CONSULAR TRAVEL. THE NASSAU CONSULAR DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE BRITISH CROWN COLONY OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, COMPRISES SOME 90,000 SQUARE MILES. ALTHOUGH MADE UP PRIMARILY OF WATER, THE DISTRICT COMPRISES SOME 730 ISLANDS (OF WHICH ABOUT 35-40 ARE INHABITED). WHILE THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF WELFARE AND PROTECTION CASES ARE ON NEW PROVIDENCE AND AT A LESSER DEGREE IN FREEPORT, SUCH CASES DO OCCUR, WITH VARYING DEGREES OF REGULARITY AND FREQUENCY, THROUGHOUT THE CONSULAR DISTRICT. SINCE WE NEED TO HAVE THE ACTIVE COOPERATION OF LOCAL OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO PERFORM

EFFECTIVELY OUR PROTECTION AND WELFARE FUNCTIONS,  
WE ARE REQUESTING FUNDS TO ENABLE CONSULAR OFFICERS TO  
MAKE PERIODIC TRIPS TO THE PRINCIPAL ISLANDS OF THE  
DISTRICT IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN CONTACT  
WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS. WE ARE ALSO REQUESTING FUNDS FOR  
USE OF CONSULAR OFFICERS TO TRAVEL TO PARTS OF THE  
DISTRICT WHERE THE NATURE OF AN INDIVIDUAL CASE MAY  
REQUIRE THE IMMEDIATE, PHYSICAL PRESENCE OF AN OFFICER.

6. THERE ARE OTHER IMPROVEMENTS WHICH THE POST WOULD  
LIKE TO BE ABLE TO CONSIDER BUT IS UNABLE TO DO SO  
BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS. AS AN EXAMPLE, OUR  
NIV WAITING ROOM IS INADEQUATE TO PROVIDE A DEGREE OF  
COMFORT FOR APPLICANTS DURING ANY BUT THE MOST SLACK  
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DAYS. AS A REVIEW OF THE GROUND PLAN AND OTHER MATERIAL  
SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO STATE 179651, REGARDING  
POSSIBLE CAT VISITATION SHOWS, WE HAVE NO PLACE TO  
EXPAND OUR FACILITIES. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT IN DEVELOP-  
ING PLANS FOR THE NEW CHANCERY, WHICH IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED  
SOME FIVE YEARS HENCE, ADEQUATE ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN  
TO LAYING OUT SUFFICIENT SPACE FOR AN EFFICIENT AND  
RESPONSIVE CONSULAR OPERATION. FINALLY THE UPCOMING  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRECLEARANCE FACILITY IN FREEPORT  
WILL UNDOUBTABLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN  
TOURISTS VISITING GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND. WITH A CON-  
SEQUENT INCREASE IN THE NEED FOR ON THE SPOT CONSULAR  
SERVICE. WHILE WE PREDICT THAT WE WILL EVENTUALLY  
FIND IT NECESSARY TO INCREASE OUR SERVICES THERE WE  
HESITATE AT THIS TIME TO RECOMMEND THAT A VICE CONSUL  
BE MAINTAINED THERE ON A PERMANENT BASIS. NEVERTHELESS,  
THERE WILL BE THE NECESSITY FOR INCREASED TRAVEL TO  
AND TIME SPENT IN FREEPORT FROM THE PRESENT SIX VISITS  
PER YEAR AND WE HAVE ALREADY BUDGETED FOR 12 VISITS  
PER YEAR.  
SCHWARTZ

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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